



3727

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: OMURA, Yoshiharu

SERIAL NO.: 10/038,278

FILED: January 4, 2002

TITLE: CAN HAVING A COVER WITH A STAY-ON TAB

SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In conjunction with the filing of the present application, and prior to an initial Official Action on this matter, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE TITLE~~On Page 1, please substitute the title as follows:~~

CAN HAVING A COVER WITH A STAY-ON TAB

IN THE CLAIMS

In Claim 1, please substitute the claim as follows:

1. (Amended) A can having a cover comprised of a stay-on tab, said stay-on tab being attached to an upper surface of said can cover by a supporting means protruding upward from said can cover, said can cover being comprised of, under one end of said stay-on tab, scores for inducing rupture, said one end of said stay-on tab being adapted to push downward a portion surrounded by said scores so as to form a content take-out hole when another end of said stay-on tab is pulled-upward, said supporting means being connected to a central portion of said stay-on tab, said central portion of said stay-on tab being contiguous to said one end of said stay-on tab and separated from said another end of said stay-on tab so that said another end can be pulled upward from said upper surface of said can cover while said central portion remains in close contact with said upper surface of said can cover,

wherein said one end and said another end of said stay-on tab are respectively inclined upward from said upper surface of said can cover so that there are distances between said one end of said stay-on tab and said upper surface of said can cover and between said another end of said stay-on tab and said upper surface of said can cover, the distance between said another end of said

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